

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 255  
By Hargett

A RESOLUTION to congratulate William H. Watkins, Jr. upon his receipt of the 2003 Alumnus of the Year Award of the Fogelman College of Business and Economics at the University of Memphis.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those citizens who through their extraordinary efforts have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy individual is William H. Watkins, Jr., the 2003 recipient of the Alumnus of the Year Award of the Fogelman College of Business and Economics at the University of Memphis; and

WHEREAS, a native of Braggadocio, Missouri, Bill Watkins served his country with great valor in the United States Marine Corps before earning his degree from the University of Memphis College of Business; and

WHEREAS, graduating with honors from the University of Memphis in 1967, Mr. Watkins began his successful career as Controller of the sixth largest industrial security firm in the country, in which position he was responsible for the development of financial statements and

HJR0255

00501885

the filing of state income taxes; he also served as a Divisional Controller for a subsidiary company; and

WHEREAS, currently, Bill Watkins is the Managing Partner of Watkins Uiberall, leading a cohesive team of 58 professionals in providing traditional accounting services, such as audits, taxes, cost segregation studies, health care consulting, family business consulting and physician consulting; and

WHEREAS, a Certified Public Accountant in Tennessee and Missouri, Mr. Watkins is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the Tennessee Society of Certified Public Accountants, serving on the state political subcommittee of this worthy organization; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his work as a Certified Public Accountant, Mr. Watkins still finds time to lend his remarkable talents to numerous notable causes; he is a member of the Board of Directors of Collegiate Pacific, Inc., the Founder, Director and Vice Chairman of Nashoba Bank, a member of the Board of Directors of the University of Memphis Foundation, the Vice Chair of the Board of Directors of BKR International and a member of the Economic Club of Memphis; and

WHEREAS, establishing a remarkable legacy of civic involvement, Bill Watkins has served previously as a member of the Legislative Committee of the West Tennessee Chapter of Associated Builders and Contractors, Inc., as a member of the Investment Committee of the Shelby County Retirement Board, as the Chairman of the Board of the Christ United Methodist Church Day School, as the Chairman of the Board of Christ United Methodist Church, as a member of the Board of Directors of the First National Bank of Collierville, as a member of the Board of Directors of the Chickasaw Council of the Boy Scouts of America, as the President of the Memphis State University National Alumni Association, as Chairman of the Shelby County Republican Party, as a member of the Healthcare Financial Management Association, as the Treasurer of the Rotary Club, as the Treasurer for various state and local political campaigns,

as an expert witness in accounting malpractice cases and as a trustee and examiner in bankruptcy cases; and

WHEREAS, Bill Watkins was honored as an "Outstanding Young Man in America" in 1977 and was recognized in *Who's Who in the South and Southwest* in 1979 and 1980 and in *Who's Who in Politics* in 1979 and 1980; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Watkins is most grateful for the love and companionship he shares with his family, including his mother, Viola Watkins, his four brothers, his wife of 38 years, Jeanette Watkins, and their two children, Trey Watkins and Renee Flores; and

WHEREAS, Bill Watkins epitomizes the spirit and commitment that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud William H. Watkins, Jr. for his dedication to the State of Tennessee and its citizens; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby congratulate William H. Watkins, Jr. as he is honored as the 2003 Alumnus of the Year of the Fogelman College of Business and Economics at the University of Memphis and extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.